

Serial No. Unknown

R E M A R K S

Claims 6, 14 and 15 have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependency thereof to minimize the filing fee.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP

Allan M. Lowe  
Registration No. 19,641

by: Benjamin J. Hauptman  
Registration No. 29,310

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1111/FAX: (703) 518-5499  
BJH:cjf  
**Date:** July 31, 2001

Serial No. Unknown

**MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES**

IN THE CLAIMS:

6. (Amended) A data reader according to claim 4 [or claim 5], wherein said given number is variable.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 [or claim 13], wherein said write pass number of said data items is compared with said current write pass number to determine whether updating is required.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 [or claim 13], wherein said given number is variable.